

Dear Meredith,

Yesterday I was fortunate to attend Wedgetail Retreat with my friend Irene.

I would like to say thank you for a wonderful experience.

My friend Irene had Breast Cancer 5 years ago and I went along to support her not ever thinking of the benefit I would have from the experience.

Eighteen years ago I had cervical cancer so I understood the importance of supporting my friend and welcoming new experiences. The job you do for cancer patients and their support group has honestly overwhelmed me. For the first time since I had my cancer I had support, comfort, love and pampering.

As women we are expected to "get on with it", support everyone else around us so as they don't fall apart. I never knew how much I did for others while I was going through treatment because I just "got on with it". I felt a huge sense of relief while I was at Wedgetail, something I have not had since before my cancer was diagnosed.

I sat in your gardens watching the joy of your patrons and your wonderful band of volunteers, tears flowed and the release of energy that had been built up for so many years finally lifted from my heart and soul.

I am a very spiritual person and consider myself connected to people and the vast universe, and the burdens I have carried seemed to float away while I was there.

You have created a magical paradise where past, present and future generations of cancer patients, carers and friends can find peace! I felt the love!

I find myself wishing I could win Lotto to be able to help out more, to even set one of these beautiful retreats on the Gold Coast. There are not enough words to describe the emotions and happiness I have felt in the last 24 hours.

I'm sorry I'm not financially able to help out, but who knows what the future will hold.

I just wanted to tell you all what a truly amazing group of soul workers you have at Wedgetail. I hope to visit again! Surviving cancer is a blessing, but being able to share in your Sunshine Day was a release and a memory I will have forever.

Thank you so so much. I wish you all lots of love and blessings. Keep up the wonderful work.

Yours kindly

Cathy van Lawick

(Letter received from Cathy van Lawick after attending the May 2014 Sunshine Day at Wedgetail Retreat.)